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H.

A NEW SPECIES AND A NEW SUBSPECIES
OF POCKET GOPHER

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In a collection of mammals from southern Inyo County, California, secured by representatives of the San Diego Society of Natural History during the spring and summer of 1931, are six specimens of pocket gophers from the Argus Mountains. Comparison with gophers taken at the type localities in the surrounding territory revealed diverging characters in the Argus Mountains specimens sufficient to warrant their being recorded as a new species.

Included in this paper is also the description of a new race of pocket gopher from Lower California, Mexico.

The writer is indebted to Mr. Donald R. Dickey and Dr. W. H. Burt of the California Institute of Technology, and to Dr. Joseph Grinnell and Dr. E. Raymond Hall of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology for the loan of comparative material.

***Thomomys argusensis* sp. nov.**

ARGUS MOUNTAINS POCKET GOPHER

Type.—From Junction Ranch, Argus Mountains, Inyo County, California; no. 9545, collection of the San Diego Society of Natural History; adult male; collected by Samuel G. Harter, August 10, 1931; original no. 133.

Characters.—A small eared, darkish colored (for desert region), small gopher; with relatively light boned skull having rounded or elliptically spreading

zygomatic arches; rostrum slender with medium length nasals; bullae small. Sexes show some difference in size, though not extreme.

Measurements.—See table, page 46.

Range.—Known from the following localities: Junction Ranch, Orando (= Arando) Mine, and Mountain Spring—all within the Argus Range of mountains.

Comparisons.—In color, *argusensis* is not unlike *Thomomys perpallidus perpes* from Lone Pine, Inyo County; but cranially it is very dissimilar to *perpes* and bears closer resemblance to the other mountain species of gophers, *scapterus* and *providentialis*, with which it evidently bears a close relationship.

Compared with *Thomomys scapterus* of the Panamint Mountains, *argusensis* differs in having longer rostrum; smaller bullae; more projecting incisors; shorter premaxillary tongues; and in having the posterior portion of the nasals sharply reduced in width by a distinct angle. In external color, *argusensis* is darker than *scapterus*.

Compared with *Thomomys providentialis*, *argusensis* is larger and darker. Cranially, *argusensis* has smaller, less globular bullae; smaller molars; more slender rostrum; more projecting incisors; longer premaxillary tongues. The nasals are longer and have the angle of reduction referred to above. The angle and spread of the zygomatic arches are not dissimilar, though in *argusensis* they are inclined to be more curved or rounded outwardly.

Remarks.—Grinnell¹ in his recent paper favors the possibility of a mountain stock as the ancestry of his newly named *Thomomys providentialis*. The characters of the species *argusensis*, here named, support the same view and lead the writer to regard the three mountain species, *scapterus*, *providentialis* and *argusensis*, as lying taxonomically outside the *perpallidus* group. The lack of square-spreading zygomatic arches and the light construction of the cranium offer evidence for this opinion.

Specimens examined.—*Thomomys perpallidus perpes*: Inyo County, California, 21 (16 from Lone Pine [type locality]; 5 from Olancha). *Thomomys perpallidus mohavensis*: San Bernardino County, California, 19 (8 from Victorville [type locality]; 11 from Hesperia). *Thomomys providentialis*: San Bernardino County, California, 5 (3 from Purdy, near Providence Mountains [type locality]; 2 from Leastalk, near Providence Mountains). *Thomomys scapterus*: Inyo County, California, 5 (Hanaupah Canyon, Panamint Mountains). *Thomomys argusensis*: Inyo County, California, 6 (4 from Junction Ranch [type locality]; 1 from Mountain Spring; 1 from Arando Mine).

¹ Univ. of Calif. Publ. in Zool., Vol. 38, No. 1, pp. 1-10, Oct. 17, 1931.

Thomomys bottae catavinensis subsp. nov.

CATAVINA POCKET GOPHER

Type.—From Cataviña, Lower California, Mexico, lat 29° 54' north, long. 114° 57' west; no. 8256, collection of the San Diego Society of Natural History; adult female; collected by Laurence M. Huey, October 10, 1930.

Characters.—In size, *catavinensis* is like *Thomomys bottae cactophilus*, which it most nearly resembles, but in color is grayer with an ashy cast, rather than the buffy ochraceous of *cactophilus*. Compared with *Thomomys bottae abbotti* this form is smaller in size and grayer. In fact the most conspicuous character of *catavinensis* is color difference.

Cranially, *catavinensis* differs from *cactophilus* in a more rounded brain case, posteriorly. This slight character is constant throughout the series examined. Compared with *abbotti*, the skull of *catavinensis* is lighter in structure and smaller in size, but the two are nearly alike in the rounded brain case.

Range.—Known only from the vicinity of the type locality, Cataviña, Lower California, Mexico.

Specimens examined (all from Lower California, Mexico).—*Thomomys bottae abbotti*: 16 from one mile east of El Rosario (type locality); 2 from San Fernando. *Thomomys bottae catavinensis*: 12 from Cataviña (type locality). *Thomomys bottae cactophilus*: 17 from Punta Prieta (type locality); 2 from Santa Rosalia Bay. *Thomomys bottae russeolus*: 2 from Mesquital; 4 from Calmalli; 19 from Campo Los Angeles.

MEASUREMENTS OF *Thomomys argusensis*

S.D. S.N.H. No.	Sex	Locality Argus Mts., Inyo Co., California	Date 1931	Total length	Tail	Hind foot	Ear	Basilar length of Hensel	Nasals	Zygomatic breadth	Width of rostrum at middle	Interorbital constriction	Alveolar length of upper molar series
9356	♂	Arando Mine.....	May 7	194	56	27	4	32.2	11.9	21.0	7.1	6.2	8.0
9471	♀ *	Mountain Spring...	June 2	179	61	26	4	30.5	10.7	20.0	7.2	6.4	7.8
9545	♂ †	Junction Ranch.....	August 10	202	67	25	4	34.0	12.9	22.8	6.8	6.1	8.3
9652	♀	Junction Ranch.....	August 12	201	62	28	4	33.0	11.3	22.2	7.2	6.2	8.3
9653	♂	Junction Ranch.....	August 12	203	66	27	4	34.5	12.7	22.5	6.8	6.2	8.0
9654	♀ *	Junction Ranch.....	August 13	186	60	27	4	31.7	10.0	21.0	6.3	6.3	7.9

* Not fully adult.

† Type